

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 JAKART 05296 241059Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /114 W
-----038833 241504Z /50

R 240855Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8320
USICA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 5296

SECSTATE FOR IO/UNESCO; PARIS FOR
US PERM DEL TO UNESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SOPN, UNESCO NXB, XF, ID
SUBJECT: PROPOSED ASIAN NEWS NETWORK

REFS: (A) STATE 094646, (B) STATE 094648

1. PAO AND PRESS OFFICER CALLED ON M. NAHAR (REFTEL (B)), DEPUTY
DIRECTOR, INDONESIAN NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, ANTARA, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS
ON ASIAN NEWS NETWORK CONCEPT AND INDONESIA'S PARTICIPATION IN
MEETING OF PRESS POOL NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES RECENTLY HELD IN JAKARTA.

2. NAHAR AND MR. MASHOED, HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPT.,
ANTARA, EMPHASIZED THAT ASIAN NEWS NETWORK NOT RPT NOT SUBSTITUTED FOR
WESTERN NEWS AGENCY COVERAGE. HE SAID IT IS CLEAR THAT THIRD WORLD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 JAKART 05296 241059Z

NATIONS ARE FED UP WITH NEWS IMBALANCE AND THAT INTENT OF PRESENT
THIRD WORLD EFFORTS IS TO CORRECT BALANCE. HE SAID KEY FACTOR TO NOTE
ABOUT CONCLUSIONS DRAWN IN RECENT JAKARTA MEETING IS THAT THERE WAS
COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON IDEA THAT PROPAGANDA NOT BE INCLUDED IN NEWS
COVERAGE NAHAR EXPLAINED THAT INDONESIANS HAD IN MIND COMMUNIST
PROPAGANDA 'SINCE COMMUNISTS ARE ALWAYS AGGRESSIVE'.
NAHAR SAID REGIONAL NEWS CENTERS WILL BE SET UP IN ASIA, ONE IN

JAKARTA (WITH ANTARA NEWS IN FACT BECOMING THE CENTER) AND THE OTHER IN HANOI AND A THIRD IN INDIA. ROLE OF CENTERS TO BE TO SELECT AND EDIT MATERIALS. ACCORDING TO NAHAR AND MASHOED, IF EDITORS FIND AN ARTICLE 'BASED ON PROPAGANDA' IT WILL BE DISCARDED. NAHAR ADMITTED PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES FACED BY ANTARA IN REJECTING PROPAGANDISTIC ARTICLES OF MEMBERS OF NETWORK BUT HE INSISTED ANTARA WILL APPLY RULE FAIRLY.

4. NAHAR NOTED THAT STRENGTH OF THE MODERATES BEING INCREASED IN THIS THIRD WORLD DISLOGUE AND NOTED ESPECIALLY ZAIRE, CHANA, NIGERIA AND KENYA AS, IN INDONESIAN VIEW, TAKING INCREASINGLY MODERATE STAND. HE SAID TANZANIA AND OTHERS STILL RADICAL BUT HE CONFIDENT MODERATE VOICES WILL BE HEARD.

5. NAHAR AND MASHOED SIAD THAT POSITIVE OFFERS OF HELP FROM REUTERS, AP, UPI, AFP AND RECENTLY DEUTSCHE PRESSE AGENTUR VERY WELCOME SIGNS OF CHANGED ATTITUDE ON PART OF WESTERN PRESS WHICH AS FIRST HOSTILE AND SUSPICIOUS. MASHOED MADE SPECIAL NOTE OF LETTER OF VICE PRESIDENT OF AP S. SWINTON EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR NON-ALIGNED NEWS POOL CONCEPT AND OFFERING AP HELP.

6. WHEN PAO STATED THAT U.S. LOOKS WITH FAVOR ON DEVELOPING COMMUNICATIONS CAPACITY AND REMEDYING IMBALANCE OF INFORMATION FLOW SO LONG AS AIM IS TO INCREASE INFORMATION NOT RESTRICT, BOTH NAHAR AND MASHOED AGREED THAT THIS WAS THE BEST AND WISEST POLICY FOR THE U.S. TO HAVE AND WOULD IN LONG RUN BE BEST FOR ALL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 JAKARTA 05296 241059Z

CONCERNED.

7. NAHAR SAID THAT INDONESIA DOES NOT MAKE USE OF RHETORIC IN THESE THIRD WORLD MEETINGS E.G. RAILING AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND CAPITALISM. IT TAKES A MODERATE STAND 'AND WINDS ITS WAY AMONG THE OTHER POWERS'. HE ALSO NOTED INDONESIA'S NEED FOR SENSITIVITY AND CONTROLS OF THE PRESS ESPECIALLY IN THE AREAS OF RACE (THE CHINESE POPULATION IN INDONESIA) AND RELIGION. BOTH QUESTIONS SO INCENDIARY THAT IF CONTROLS NOT USED, VIOLENCE CAN FLARE UP INSTANTLY WITH MANY CASUALTIES.

8. NAHAR WILL ATTEND A MEETING TO BE HELD SOON IN TEHAN AND M. CHUDORY, CHIEF EDITOR, ANTARA WILL ATTEND MEETING IN STOCKHOLM. NAHAR INDICATED THAT THESE TWO MEETINGS WILL TAKE UP SPECIFIC PRESS MATTERS WHILE HAVANA MEETING DESIGNED TO COVER ALL MEDIA. NOTE: INDONESIAN DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESS AND GRAPHICS, SOEKARNO AND MRS. GANIS HARSONO OF DIRECTORATE RADIO TV AND FILM OF MOI REPRESENTED INDONESIA IN HAVANA. SOEKARNO WAS RECENT IV GRANTEE. MRS. HARSONO WILL SOON TRAVEL TO US AS IV GRANTEE. WILL ATTEMPT OBTAIN THEIR IMPRESSIONS HAVANA CONFERENCE ON THEIR RETURN. MASTERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS, THE PRESS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978JAKART05296
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780174-0736
Format: TEL
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780425/aaaaauqx.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 61d3c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 94646, 78 STATE 94648
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2872938
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED ASIAN NEWS NETWORK
TAGS: SOPN, PORG, XB, XF, ID, UNESCO
To: STATE ICA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/61d3c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014